

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-7, 9 and 10 remain pending in the application. By this Amendment, claim 8 is canceled, and claim 1 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 8.

It is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 affords Applicants a scope of protection to which they are entitled given the documents relied upon by the Examiner. The Examiner has failed to recognize significant features recited in Applicants' claims.

On page 2 of the Office Action, independent claim 1, along with various dependent claims, are rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,661,544 (Okino et al.). On page 4 of the Office Action, dependent claim 4 is rejected as being unpatentable over the Okino et al. patent. On page 5 of the Office Action, dependent claim 6 is rejected as being unpatentable over the Okino et al. patent in view of U.S. Patent 6,044,180 (Brandestini et al.). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

A photographic capturing device for the capturing of photographic image information from photographic media is disclosed. Included with the photographic capturing device are a first optical arrangement, such as the exemplary lens system 500 of Applicants' Fig. 5, for projecting a photographic medium positioned at a preselected position onto a detection means, and a second optical arrangement, such as the exemplary condenser lens 400 in Applicants' Fig. 5, for projecting an output opening enlarged onto the first optical arrangement (e.g., specification at page 7, lines 10-16 and page 10, in the first full paragraph). The arrangement can provide enhanced efficiency by using a light source with an opening which is smaller

than the surface of the photographic medium to be scanned (e.g., page 7, lines 4-7). The arrangement can allow compact exposure for constant luminance of a surface which, for example, scales with the number of LED chips. The second optical arrangement of claim 1 can thus expose a surface which is larger than the output opening, using for example, projection of an output opening enlarged.

The foregoing features are broadly encompassed by claim 1 which recites, among other features, a photographic capturing device including a first optical arrangement for projecting a photographic medium positioned at a preselected position onto a detection means, and a second optical arrangement for projecting an output opening enlarged onto the first optical arrangement.

The Okino et al. patent does not teach or suggest, among other features, a second optical arrangement for projecting an output opening enlarged onto a first optical arrangement. The Okino et al. patent discloses optical elements 60, 70, 72 and 76 of an image reading apparatus wherein a thin strip of block 70 faces a photographic film 68. The disclosed image reading apparatus does not project an output opening enlarged onto lens unit 76 (col. 5, lines 17-35). Rather, the block 70 is shown in Fig. 3 to concentrate the entering light into a thin strip towards the conveyed photographic film 68. The Okino et al. patent therefore fails to teach or suggest Applicants' claim 1 combination of features, such that claim 1 is allowable.

The Brandestini et al. patent does not cure the deficiencies of the Okino et al. patent. The Brandestini et al. patent was cited for its disclosure of blue, green and red LEDs (col. 9, lines 28-31). The Brandestini et al. patent does not teach or suggest a photographic capturing device including, among other features, a first optical arrangement for projecting a photographic medium positioned at a

preselected position onto a detection means, and a second optical arrangement for projecting an output opening enlarged onto the first optical arrangement, as recited in claim 1.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant's claim 1 is allowable. The remaining claims depend from the independent claim and recite additional advantageous features which further distinguish over the documents relied upon by the Examiner. As such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

All objections and rejections raised in the Office Action having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Reg. No. 48,360

Date: April 13, 2005

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